

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference B4702 PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/FR01/01608	International filing date (day/month/year) 23 May 2001 (23.05.01)	Priority date (day/month/year) 24 May 2000 (24.05.00)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G11C 7/06, 17/12		
Applicant STMICROELECTRONICS S.A.		

<p>1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>2</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).</p> <p>These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.</p>	
<p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p>I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report</p> <p>II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority</p> <p>III <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p>IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention</p> <p>V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p>VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited</p> <p>VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application</p> <p>VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application</p>	

Date of submission of the demand 13 December 2001 (13.12.01)	Date of completion of this report 30 January 2002 (30.01.2002)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
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**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/FR01/01608

I. Basis of report

1. The basis of international preliminary examination report is the application as originally filed.

III. Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

2. The question of whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step, or to be industrially applicable has not been and will not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Article 34 (4) a) i), ii) PCT; see also international search report) for:
 - 2.1 Applications with unnecessary independent claims (not more than one independent claim per category is generally required; Article 6 PCT).
 - 2.2 Unsearched subject-matter (Article 17 (2) a), Rule 66.1 e) PCT).

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability

3. To the extent that the international preliminary examination has been carried out (see item III above), the following is pointed out (Article 35 (2) and (3) b) and Rule 70.7 and 70.8 ii) PCT):

In light of the documents cited in the international search report, it is considered that the invention as defined in the independent claims meets the criteria mentioned in Article 33 (1) PCT, i.e. appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step and to be industrially applicable.